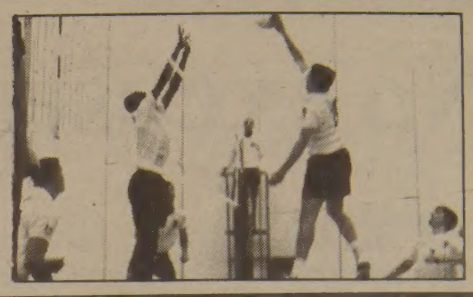
Comedian cracks up After Hours
See Page 10

Volleyball action
See Page 13



NIAGARA NEWS

Vol. 25 No. 11

Friday, Feb. 17, 1995

FREE

NIAGARA COLLEGE
Applied Arts and Technology
WELLAND CAMPUS
LEARNING
RESOURCE CENTRE

'Some newspapers dispose of their garbage by printing it.' — Former U.S. vice-president Spiro T. Agnew

Cooke supports learning commission report

By WILLY NOILES
Staff Writer

Despite the Ontario Ministry of Education and Training's proposal that teachers be recertified every five years, college and university instructors do not have to worry.

In a telephone interview Tuesday, Dave Cooke, minister of education and training and Windsor-Riverside MPP, said college and university instructors will not be affected by the proposal.

Tenure, he says, "makes it a whole different ball game."

Cooke says Royal Commission on Learning proposals will not affect colleges at this point.

"There won't be any direct impact on the colleges."

The ministry has made three announcements on which recommendations will be implemented. These include province-wide curriculum covering junior kindergarten to the end of secondary school and a common report card to be ready for September 1996; school councils that all schools should start setting up for September 1995; and the creation of an Ontario College of Teachers, which will function much like the Ontario Medical Association.

School councils, consisting of a majority of parents, will determine school budgeting priorities, capital improvements and the local aspect of the curriculum.

Although specifics on a College of Teachers have not been determined, it will be responsible for two-year teacher education programs and a procedure of certification of teachers.

At a public forum at Holy Cross Secondary School in St. Catharines Tuesday, Cooke said the commission's recommendations have been "very well received by the public and the political leadership of this province."

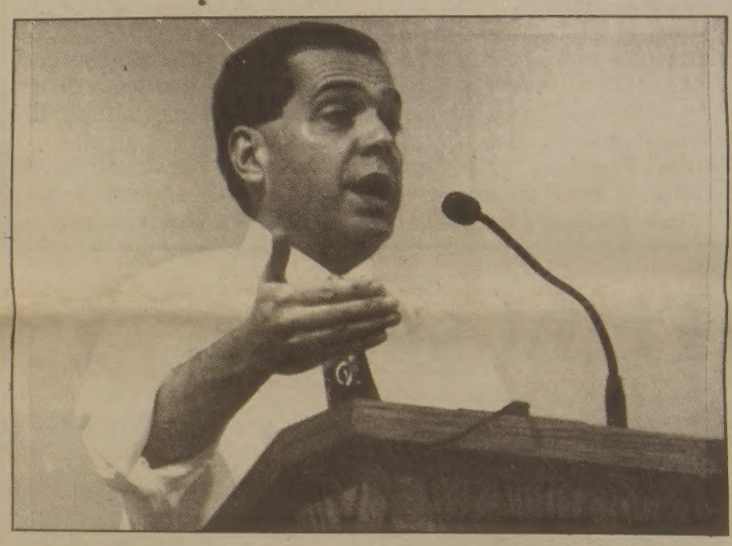
Calling the report "doable, practical and...the closest thing to consensus" Ontario needed, Cooke says there will be further announcements, but some items still need reviewing.

These include school board restructuring, province-wide testing, aboriginal issues, the existence of Grade 13 and schooling for three year olds.

While making no commitments on these issues, Cooke says canceling Grade 13 would not necessarily extend the number of years for university or college. It would, however, save the province $320 - $330 million.

There is no greater level of academic success in the other provinces that don't have Grade 13, than there is in Ontario, Cooke says.

Although schooling for three year olds is controversial, Cooke says "if we don't want to invest in earlier education, we'll pay for it later in terms of illiteracy...and unemployment."



Ontario's Minister of Education and Training, Dave Cooke (Windsor-Riverside MPP), spoke to a forum of about 300 people at Holy Cross Secondary School in St. Catharines, Feb. 14. Cooke says the Royal Commission on Learning's recommendations are "doable and practical."

Photo by Willy Noiles.

ECE student dies in auto accident

'...she was a very active, involved student'

By CHRISTINE RAWCLIFFE
and SUE NOBLE
Staff Writers

Niagara College's Early Childhood Education (ECE) students and faculty recently mourned the loss of a friend and colleague Dawn Dean, 20, a second-year ECE student.

Anita Huizinga, 26, and Dean died Tuesday, Feb. 6, in a collision on Highway 58. The vehicle they were driving southbound collided with a northbound station wagon.

Dean is survived by her parents, Bob and Marilyn Dean, of Wainfleet; her brother, Brian and his wife, Lynn, of Fenwick; her grandmother, Alice Dean, and Earle and Reta Winger.

Her funeral was held at 11 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 11, at the Wainfleet Brethren in Christ Church.

Huizinga is survived by her husband, Ken, and three children, Joshua, Caleb, and Jacob. Her funeral was held Friday, Feb. 10, at 2 p.m. at the Wellandport Christian Reform Church.

Allison Soave, co-ordinator of the ECE program, said of Dean, "she was a very active, involved student." ECE faculty member Chantal Millet said Dean was "somebody special."

The faculty members were made aware of the tragedy when Dean's co-op placement employer called the following morning to ask where she was.

"It was not like Dawn to not show up. She was a very responsible student," said Soave.

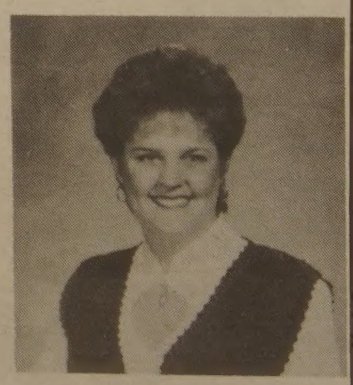
"Everyone knew and liked Dawn," said classmate and friend Mark Dixon, 22, also a second-year ECE student.

He said "she was a great person." He helped her with a Special Needs presentation last Friday and said, "it was pretty cool, she was great to work with."

"I've never seen 50 girls break down and cry before. You feel so helpless. I had to leave the room just to regain my composure," Dixon said when describing the morning they were told about the death.

He said a suggestion was made to establish a bursary or award to be presented in Dean's memory at graduation.

Donations for the Dawn Dean Memorial fund can be directed to Soave in room M24, Welland campus. Dean's family requests that donations be made in lieu of flowers to Crohn's Foundation; any donations will be appreciated.



DAWN DEAN

What do you want?

By PAUL HARDY
Staff Writer

Student success is the focus of a survey by Niagara College.

The questionnaire, to be be circulated to new students, will be used to identify the wants and needs of the ever-changing student population, says Leo Tiberi, college manager of Co-operative Education and Career Services.

Tiberi, with Duncan MacDuff, a consultant in Workplace Learning in the Skills Development department at the college, initiated the survey some months ago. They hope to implement it by March.

MacDuff has extensive experience in conducting surveys, said Tiberi.

The survey will be distributed to all full-time, post-secondary students at each campus when they enter the college and again around mid-term.

Tiberi said answering the survey will be voluntary.

Continued on page 2

No excuses for administration lineups

By BRYAN BERNAT
Staff Writer

Al Vaughan makes no excuses about lineups occurring at the registrar's desk.

The Niagara College registrar described a Jan. 20 editorial in the Niagara News, *Cattle have it better,* as "discouraging" because it made the college's administration sound insensitive toward the needs of students.

"We very much care about the students," said Vaughan, who became registrar last August. "It's as hard on them (the office administration) as on the students."

The workload at the registrar's office peaks twice a year, during August and January.

The January peak is particularly difficult because employees must process more than 5,000 students in two weeks as opposed to the fall semester when they have a little more time.

In 1990, there were just over 3,000 full-time students, but now there are 4,750 full-time students without additional personnel in the registrar's office. Using those numbers, the staff has more work.

"Back in 1990, we had 120 new students, now there are over 500 in January," said Vaughan. "There are programs starting all the time."

Vaughan said the office administration has recently brainstormed some ideas such as "express lanes" for simple transactions. The express lanes would be for students who want quick changes to their schedules, such as adding or dropping classes.

"This staff, financial aid, student registration. . . is trying to significantly change processes."

Vaughan said he has been told the lineups three years ago were considerably longer.

The 1 1/2 hours spent by the editorial writer in the line was an "extraordinary situation, though I'm reluctant to say that," he said.

Vaughan stressed lineups aren't good and he, along with the staff, have learned from the editorial.

"Any wait is unfortunate."

College grads receive Premier's Awards

Dave Cooke, Ontario's minister of education and training, announced on Feb. 9 the recipients of the 1994-95 Premier's Awards for graduates of Ontario's colleges of applied arts and technology.

Although there were no winners from Niagara College, the names of four graduates from the college were submitted. They were: Carol Alaimo from Applied Arts; James Walters from Business; Dave Gibson from Business and Paul Campbell from Technology.

This year's winners were: Applied Arts - Amos Key Jr. from Mohawk College in Hamilton: Business - Monon Lacelle Lacroix from St. Lawrence College in Brockville, nominated by La Cite Collegiale in Ottawa; Health Sciences - Fred Upshaw from Durham College in Oshawa and Gerry Lougheed Jr. from Humber College in Etobicoke; Technology - Gino Sonego from Confederation College in Thunder Bay.

Fifty-nine graduates from 25 colleges in Ontario were nominated for this year's awards.

Student success survey

Continued from page 1

"Some students are surveyed to death, and that's what we *don't* want to do."

The aim is to pinpoint students' needs in program development, college services and employment services.

"It's all within the context of invitational college," said Tiberi, explaining an "invitational" college is more attractive to potential students.

He said he hopes the results "will help all service areas of the college better understand students.

"The more we know about students, the better we can plan."

He said the student population's changing demographics also results in the need for identification of needs.

Tiberi said he plans to involve Student Administrative Council (SAC) through focus groups to obtain student feedback.

A planned meeting with SAC was cancelled last week. Tiberi said he hopes to meet with members soon, however.

"We would like them to be actively involved," he said. "We're all in this together."

Although SAC President Jason Graham and Vice-President of Internal Affairs Dawn Swayze expressed concerns over the delayed involvement, Graham said SAC is in favor of student participation.

"Our duty . . . is to get students involved," said Graham. "We wouldn't be doing our job if we didn't."

Tight security for aborginal student lounge

"we need to make sure access is limited to aboriginal students"

By GORDON HILL
Staff Writer

Security at Niagara College's aboriginal student lounge has been beefed up in absence of access manager supervision following the recent resignation of Bonnie Winskel.

Students visiting the lounge at the Welland campus are required to fill out a building pass. The last student in the lounge for the day must fill out a "security close" (a record of the last occupant of the office) if security cannot be located to lock the door.

'not reflective of trust, it's to see things are protected'

Diane McMillan, security site supervisor, says the extra security isn't reflective of the trust given to aboriginal students who use the lounge. Rather "the only reason extra security measures are in place is to see things are protected because of the change in management. We need to make sure access is limited to aboriginal students," McMillan said.

Chris Shawanoo, aboriginal student representative, said the extra security insures the computer equipment in the lounge will not be stolen or otherwise compromised.

"A replacement (manager) will hopefully be in place by the end of February. As of now there is only one applicant for the position," Shawanoo said.

Diane McMillan, security site supervisor for Niagara College, explains the extra security measures at the aboriginal student lounge.
Photo by Gordon Hill

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Canada

St. Catharines MP honored for Job Training

Lastewka stresses re-training 'That's what it is all about'

By SHELLEY HOLDEN
Staff Writer

Walt Lastewka was honored on Feb. 13 at the St. Catharines campus for his support in job training in the Niagara Region.

Lastewka, MP for St. Catharines, was presented with a plaque from Dan Patterson, Niagara College's vice-president Ventures. The plaque was given to Lastewka from Niagara College and Human Resources Development Canada (HRDC).

"As an MP, Walt is very helpful in supporting the college's efforts to deliver training for HRDC. He understands the importance for a trained workforce and sees that Niagara College has the capacity to deliver important programs which equip people with the necessary skills for job opportunities," said Patterson.

Lastewka has helped with programs such as Women Into Trades and Technology, Motive Power Trades and Environmental Enterprise.

"I believe very strongly in training and re-training and with a 60-70 per cent success rate of jobs being offered at the end of a course, that's what it is all about," said Lastewka.

On hand at the presentation were Ken Dupuis, a graduate from the automotive trades and his employer Fern Cousineau, from Ferndale Vineyards. "I would like Walt to bring to Ottawa the message to keep these programs going. Staff and management need to work together," said Cousineau. " The graduates provide the energy and we provide the skills."

Lastewka referred to Dupuis and Cousineau as being good examples of what the programs can offer. "With people skills and technical skills linked together, Canada wins," said Lastewka.

Lastewka said there is always improvement for the next course and can never assume that things can't be improved.

"We as a government want to go beyond what only unemployment insurance provides," said Lastewka. "This is not a cost, it is an investment."

Walt Lastewka is seen here holding a plaque given to him by Niagara College and Human Resources Development Canada in honor of his achievements in job training. From left to right are Dan Patterson, vice-president Ventures, Walt Lastewka, MP for St. Catharines, Fern Cousineau, owner of Ferndale Vineyards and Ken Dupuis, a graduate of Niagara College and an employee at Ferndale Vineyards.

Photo by Shelley Holden

Caravan coming to Niagara

By EVELYN BAUER
Staff Writer

The needs and interests of people with disabilities will be showcased in Caravan '94-95', on Feb. 20 and 21 at Niagara College.

At the Welland campus from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. both days , displays in the Merritt Building will showcase the latest high tech, state-of-the-art appliances and equipment.

Volunteers are needed to man the unique learning-centre of nine themed stations or pods.

Gille Prescott, co-ordinator of the Special Needs office, has arranged for the Caravan exhibition to visit the college.

Caravan will provide an opportunity to sensitize post-secondary students and faculty. It is an interactive look at disability today and tomorrow.

"We are trying to increase the awareness of people on what it is like to have a disability. You'll be able to experience what it feels like to have a disability and learn how hard it is to struggle to do certain things," said Prescott.

Show-goers will be able to try many exhibits such as: a micro-electric artificial hand, making a phone call using a TTD/TTY (telecommunications device for the deaf), test speed and endurance on an authentic racing wheelchair, learn how to use household electric appliances operated by fingertip environmental control unit and experience the new theories on injury prevention.

Caravan needs almost 1,000 square feet of space and utilizes 20 TV's and a 25-unit speaker system. A moving van transports the show across the country.

Over 250 individuals were involved in the development and production of the exhibit: consultants, construction specialists, corporate sponsors and equipment suppliers.

Caravan is being displayed at 26 Canadian colleges and universities nationwide. The show started in October 1994 in Vancouver, B.C. and will conclude in March in Newfoundland.

"It is going to be very interesting.The community is invited to participate in the exhibits," said Prescott.

Sponsors for Caravan include Disability Today Magazine, Dominion of Canada General Insurance Company and Chrysler Canada.

Alternative to welfare is working

By SHELLEY HOLDEN
Staff Writer

Thanks to JobsOntario Training, $1,059,854 has been saved in welfare money.

In 1994, about 250 people in the Niagara Region received a pay cheque rather than a welfare cheque.

"The idea is to get people to go back to work and to not rely on social assistance, therefore saving the taxpayers money," says Bea Clark, director, Skills Development, broker for JobsOntario in the Niagara Region.

JobsOntario is a training program, operated by the provincial government, that helps create jobs in Niagara. Employers must be in business for more than six months and must be a member of the private sector. Individuals who are looking for eligibility must have depleted their employment insurance benefits or are receiving social assistance.

"We are very happy with the results for 1994," said Clark. "By providing people with the opportunity to learn new skills, we are helping them re-enter the workforce and once again become wage earners."

To date, jobsOntario has created 920 jobs in the region since it started in 1992.

Clark said provincial Education and Training Minister Dave Cooke rated the Niagara Region - in an evaluation - as one of the highest brokers, among 50 organizations in Ontario, for the quality of service they have provided.

"Our goal is to have 1,000 people back to work by the end of March."

Russo plays important role

By MICHAEL WALES
Staff Writer

Niagara College Director of Marketing and Communications Lyn Russo has played an integral role in the establishment of the Ontario College Administrative Staff Association (OCASA).

The OCASA is a province-wide professional organization for college administrators.

Russo says the association was a result of the provincial government's social contract, which mandated that an organization be formed for administrators.

OCASA is officially a sub-committee of the Administrative Staff Consultative Committee (ASCC). In April 1992, the Ontario Council of Regents asked Ontario College Presidents to assign administrators to sit on the sub committee, which has now become OCASA.

The mail-in referendum to establish the organization was held in the fall. Russo, who sits on the executive of OCASA, distributed over 1,800 ballots to administrators at all of Ontario's 25 colleges of applied arts and technology. Of the ballots returned, over 90 per cent voted in favor of the formation of the association.

Russo says the social contract accelerated the establishment of the association from years to months. She also said the legislation changed the focus and role of the group, which Russo described as "a real mixed group, which provides diverse representation."

The focus of the group is to provide input on working conditions and terms of employment, provide professional development and create solid representation and a strong administrative voice.

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CRNC is located in the former Fashion Boutique area in the Tecumseh Centre at the Welland campus and is operated by the students of the Broadcasting-Radio, Television and Film program.

EDITORIAL PAGE

The Niagara News is a practical lab for the **Journalism-Print** program, covering the college community and other areas of interest. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the management of the Niagara News or the administration of Niagara College. P.O. Box 1005, 300 Woodlawn Rd., Ontario L3B 5S2. Phone (905) 735-2211/ 688-1380/ 384-9760/ 382-2383/ FAX (905) 788-3978.

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Get the facts straight

Last week I was watching TV when I saw a most disturbing thing. An anti-drug commercial sponsored by some American lobby group came on, spouting statistics on teenage crime.

It rattled off things such as the percentage of rape victims under age 18, the number of children bringing guns to school, and other pessimistic numbers. This seemed all in order, until the point of the commercial came. "Talk to your children about marijuana," the voice said.

How dare these people associate marijuana with these kinds of violent crimes? It is a documented fact marijuana does not cause users to become violent. In fact, quite the opposite happens. Marijuana smokers would much rather passively sit around the house than go out and rape or kill someone.

Has the case for continued marijuana prohibition become so out of date that anti-cannabis crusaders must resort to scare tactics to support their cause? It was unfounded propaganda that caused marijuana to be made illegal in the first place.

Cannabis is not an evil drug that causes violence and insanity. It is an ages-old cure-all that can be made into such varied products as automotive fuel, clothing and a variety of medications. The seeds from the cannabis plant are the richest source of protein known to exist. The fibres from the stalk are among the strongest and most durable found anywhere. Smoking marijuana has been known to ease the nausea of AIDS sufferers and chemotherapy patients.

Despite its uses, cannabis remains prohibited; even promoting its use and benefits can bring a fine of $100,000 - the highest fine for any offence in Canada - on the first conviction. A slightly larger fine, $300,000, is set for a second conviction.

I understand the prohibitionists' desire to protect children from the dangers of drug use, but isn't it time we started educating them instead of scaring them?

Mike Michaud

Philosophical musings

In the beginning, religion was invented to give human life meaning, and to make us feel special.

It was an easy product to sell, after all, who wouldn't want eternal life in a world of peace?

Religion offered an explanation for this complex universe around us. An answer that was fixed, unquestionable and easy for all to understand.

Then, along came science—life for the inhabitants of planet Earth would never be the same. Through science, we had a way to unravel the mysteries of nature. And each discovery gave birth to a whole new set of questions.

The universe is so complex, it will probably never be fully understood, but that's what makes life so interesting.

Life is about challenge and discovery—pleasure comes from learning. The universe reveals its mysteries very slowly, so countless generations to come will have a chance to experiment, learn and grow.

Science has created a global village, put a man on the moon, and will soon send mankind to venture to the stars. Leaving the earth may one day be the only way to find out more about ourselves.

I was an atheist, who believes there is no God, but I have since become agnostic, believing the existence of God is not provable (the theory of an afterlife defies all logic, but who knows).

Whether there is a God or isn't is beyond me, but as the saying goes, "If it seems too good to be true, it probably is."

If indeed there is a God, wouldn't He want you to use the brain He gave you to form your own opinions and philosophies about life in the most imaginative way you can, rather than blindly obey the preachings of those who say you're going to hell if you don't.

I don't have a problem with religion—it can be very comforting to those who need it. But don't be so ignorant as to dismiss the discoveries of science, simply because your ego won't allow you to believe that you descended from apes, and live on an inconsequential mote of dust in a vast cosmic arena.

John Sakars

Letters to Editor

I agree with . . .

Dear Editor:

I was elected as Broadcasting, Radio, Television and Film program representative by telling the class that I understood their problems...because I too am a student. Time now to put my head on the chopping block.

I agree with Janice Poole's letter!

Although her letter may be accused for being 'dramatized' etc...there are many cold truths about it. I agree with Poole's remarks on the student's lack of concentration and disrepect for our teachers. I personally feel that many of our students are still in 'high-school' mode.

I strongly think a lot of this has partly to do with the enrolment situation. Our course accepted an extra 40 or so students. This meant larger classes and many applicants who shouldn't have been considered...were.

I doubt if many of them are even serious about what they want. How can they?

With the Ontario Student Assistance Program pampering them, and tuition fees only costing a fraction of what you're supposed to pay...*the incentive for learning declines!* I'm not saying that all of the students in my course are spoiled rotten. On the contrary! A lot of students in my course display a great wealth of talent and an iron will to carry it out. It's just the excess baggage our class is carrying, that is responsible for the problem.

I find most of the 'troublemakers' indeed do act like Grade 7 students. They fail to recognize that the professors are there to help them...not fight them.

I doubt, though, if this will last for long. Janice Poole shouldn't worry.

Eventually poor marks and lack of attendance will eliminate the 'iconoclass'. By next year, only the *serious students will still* be around, the 'Wild Bunch' will be long gone.

This is what I think is happening and this is what I believe is the problem.

Luc K. Labrecque
BRTF Representative

Well done Gord Hill

Dear Editor:

I would like to extend my gratitude for the proficient media coverage Gordon Hill demonstrated on the Native Culinary program.

This positive exposure will enhance the success and the continuation of this unique project.

Please feel free to visit the students, and monitor the many special events that will be occurring within the interval of this program.

Sincerely
Brian Skye
Program Co-ordinator
Native Culinary program

Elections coming

By BRENT LADEROUTE
Staff Writer

Four candidates have been nominated for the faculty and student positions on the Board of Governors of Niagara College for the terms to commence Sept. 1, 1995.

The three faculty nominees are: Thomas Busnarda from the General Education Division, Angela North from the Community Studies Division, and Garfield Webb from Foundation Studies.

By acclamation the student position will be filled by Kathryn Mamo from the Educational Resources and Special Needs program.

Campaigning for the faculty position on the board will take place from Feb. 20 to March 5.

Voting will take place March 6,7, and 8 at the following locations: the Welland campus in the Black Walnut Building-Cafeteria, ME-100 and H-21; the Horticultural Centre, St. Catharines; the Hospitality and Tourism Centre, Niagara Falls; the Mack Nursing Centre, St. Catharines; and the Main Office on the 2nd floor of the St. Catharines campus. Voting hours are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Voting will also take place from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in H-21 and at the St. Catharines campus.

PERSPECTIVES

Sacrifices come with the territory

By JASON GRAHAM
Staff Writer

Sometimes I feel like the oldest man on campus.

When I first applied to Niagara College two years ago, I figured I would be the student who would sit at the back of class, hands lying complacently in my lap, just doing the work to receive my diploma in the allotted two-year time period.

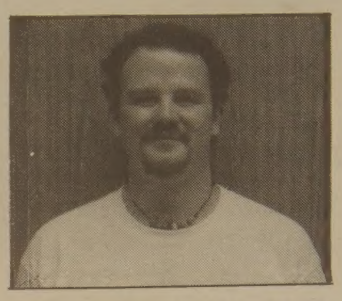
Little did I know.

In April last year, a friend encouraged me to investigate becoming a member of the student government. I knew nothing about the political entity monikered so cutely as SAC (Student Administrative Council). I knew some of the SAC members because I was a frequent patron of After Hours, but I had no idea what went on behind the student governmental scene.

I do now.

After being acclaimed in the position of executive vice-president (and there I was, speech written, campaign posters made, stern, yet friendly face frozen in political glee and no opposition, sigh) I began to realize the responsibilities to which I had so nonchalantly agreed.

Working in the SAC office throughout the summer, trying to establish a sense of the position, I learned that the responsibility of being a student leader is one



of moderate importance. And as September rapidly approached the responsibilities became increasingly apparent.

Five months later, I am president of SAC. I have learned how to take large sums of money and break them down repeatedly and allocate accordingly.

I have learned how to sit on a committee and exercise paramount patience with people who were born to talk in circles.

I have learned how to deal with five other student leaders and all their personality quirks and emotional outbursts (as well as them dealing with mine).

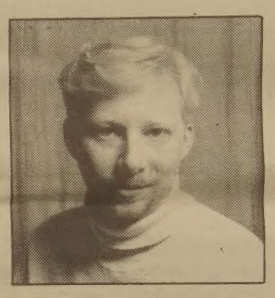
I have learned how thick the red tape actually is.

I have learned all this and still tried to remain on a humble plane, overcoming the elitism stigma sometimes attached to a political position.

My scholastics have suffered. My personal life has suffered. But, that was my choice. I make no excuses, I try to represent students because that is my job. A job which I am paid to do.

I leave with nothing more than my efforts, my previous title (yes, it does look good on a resume) and the acquired knowledge as a forewarning and a welcoming to future endeavors.

Canadian Military takes the spotlight



By MICHAEL WALES
Staff Writer

For those who've missed my journalistically-unbiased ramblings for the past two weeks, I apologize. I plead lack of creativity.

The Canadian military has been unable to escape the spotlight in recent weeks. Between the hazing escapades of the now-defunct Airborne Regiment and the Florida golfing junkets given to military Generals, armed-forces-morale has never been higher.

In the past few weeks, videos of the Airborne Regiment have been released at a higher frequency than Police Academy movies. The videos include drunken parties, amateur electric-shock therapy and interesting new dieting tips. Now if only they can enlist that guy who makes the funny noises . . .

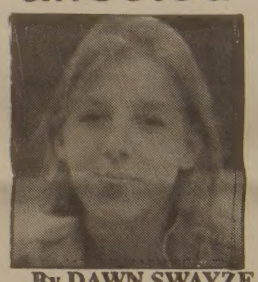
The most interesting international news story continues to be O.J. Simpson 90210. Simpson's double murder trial in the deaths of Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman has made for stirring television, with a cast of characters which includes a dog named Kato, a houseboy named Kato (both of whom seem to share the same hairstylist and knack for freeloading), a former Studs contestant and football's most famous slow white Bronco (no, not John Elway).

By the way, has anyone seen Andre Agassi's new hairstyle? Tennis is like a box of chocolates . . .

In a move that has comedians and talk-show hosts in a state of mourning, former U.S. Vice-President Dan Quayle has withdrawn from the U.S. presidential race. Quayle was quick to note, however, that he was confident he could have mounted a winning campaign. I guess a joke here would be redundant.

And finally, Canadian federal Finance Minister Paul Martin has subtly suggested that tax hikes may be a part of his forthcoming budget. Is inciting people to riot no longer a federal offence in this country?

All those affected



By DAWN SWAYZE
Staff Writer

Those affected every day, everywhere, by the standard of education are slowly but surely having their opinions empowered. Steps are being taken to have those opinions validated and implemented through awareness.

As vice-president internal of the Niagara College Student Administrative Council (SAC), I attempted to address a number of the student body recently in a general meeting.

To a great degree, SAC has been successful in generating valuable assessments from the Niagara College student body.

Some would argue we were unsuccessful in reaching the majority. We, as a council, would be forced to agree.

I hope this attempt reaches more students, more faculty, and more administrators. I hope this because I am a concerned member of the student body.

As a student of this college, I believe I have valuable input to help improve the college, based on my experiences. I believe in my personal power and drive to help make responsible changes. So does anyone else who values personal input.

I believe Niagara College's students, educators and administrators will prove to those in decision-making positions, they have responsible and valuable input to offer.

Let's listen responsibly. Let's encourage our governments to listen to us responsibly.

Cooke concerned about federal cuts

An Open Letter to Students:

The threat of a dramatic decrease in federal support for post-secondary education has caused considerable anxiety within the college and university communities.

I have repeatedly expressed my concern that reductions in federal support could lead to reductions in post-secondary operations (including possible closing of institutions) and increases in tuition fees.

Administrators, faculty, staff and — most notably — students, have all expressed their opposition to the elimination of the cash support to provinces for post-secondary education, and the replacement of that support with increased tuition fees.

This concern has been expressed by individuals from a very broad range of backgrounds and political affiliations, whose concerns focused on the maintenance of accessible high-quality education, not in political posturing.

On Jan. 24, Ontario Liberal Leader Lyn McLeod entered the debate, with a muted response to the federal plan and a criticism of the Government of Ontario. I am writing to you today to respond to her assertions.

She refers to this government's "threats that they may have to increase tuition by 105 per cent" as "irresponsible posturing."

At no time have I threatened to increase fees by that amount.

Rather, I have repeatedly stated that such an increase in fees would be required to compensate for withdrawal of federal funding. I have also indicated that I will not ask students to shoulder the entire burden, should the threatened reductions in federal support become reality.

What would Ms. McLeod's response be to federal cutbacks?

Where would she find the $700 million? Her options would be similar to those available to any provincial government: raise taxes, borrow more money, increase tuition fees, or reduce support to institutions.

Unfortunately, Ms. McLeod's contribution to this debate has been alarmingly simplistic: no more taxes (in fact, she promises to reduce taxes by five per cent), no more borrowing, no more tuition fee increases, and no comment. College and university communities deserve honest, substantive explanation from the Leader of the Opposition.

Ms. McLeod also claims that, unlike our government, "I will move forward with an income contingent repayment program if it can be demonstrated that there is no significant negative impact upon student debt loads."

The fact is my ministry has been actively exploring income-contingent repayment plans (ICRPs) for the past year. Working with colleges, universities, and student groups, we sponsored a public symposium on the topic.

We have shared the results of our research with student groups and others concerned about accessibility. I have told student groups repeatedly that if an ICRP system makes sense we'll implement it.

We will not, however, use an ICRP to justify dramatic increases in student fees, as proposed in (federal minister) Lloyd Axworthy's Green Paper on Social Security Reform.

I have asked representatives of university and college administrations, students, faculty and staff to assist me in responding to the proposals which were contained in Mr. Axworthy's Green Paper on Social Security Reform.

I found the January meeting helpful, and I appreciated the frankness of the meeting's participants. I look forward to meeting again with this group. We must continue to work together to find solutions which will maintain access to high-quality colleges and universities.

I welcome Ms. McLeod's participation in this debate. I ask only that she be honest in her approach and clear about her intentions.

Sincerely,
Dave Cooke, MPP
Windsor-Riverside
Minister of Education and Training

Woodhouse's contributions benefit community

By MICHAEL GREVES
Staff Writer

He has spent time on several councils. He has held several positions at Niagara College. And he still finds time to coach girls baseball during the summer months.

He is Mal Woodhouse, born in 1947, the college's acting director of physical resources since Jan. 17. Woodhouse's father became seriously ill when he was entering high school at Grantham in St. Catharines. Because his family required another salary while his father was ill, Woodhouse never finished high school, yet graduated from Niagara's Labour Management Relations course.

"I had to get out and try to make a living, when I was 16," he said. "So I started working . . . and went to night school for five years. He (my father) had part of his stomach taken out. I think about a third, I'm not certain exactly what it was (his father's illness).

"I know he ate a lot of pablum and baby food for a long time," he said with a small chuckle.

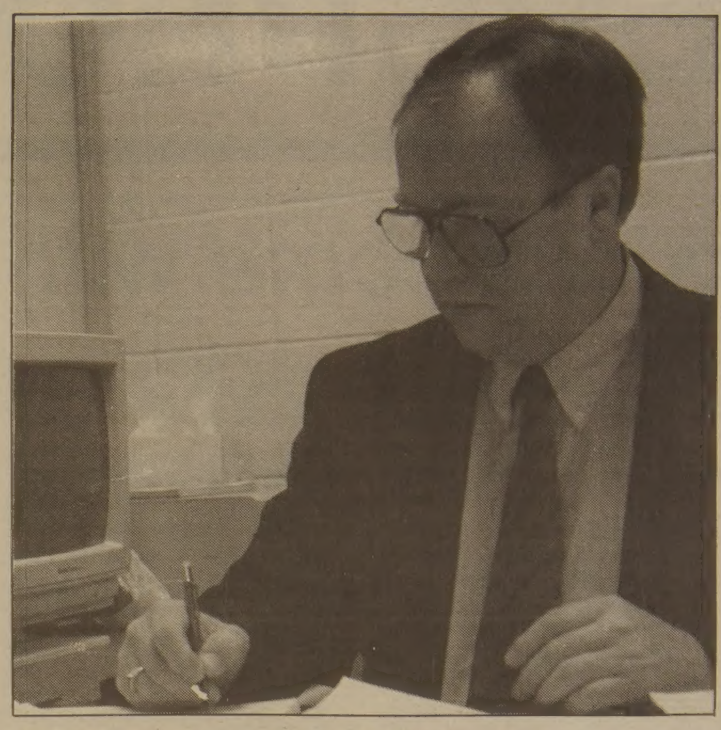
Woodhouse, a deliberate, thoughtful speaker, wore a simple suit and tie. Obviously an understated character, Woodhouse was elected mayor of Thorold on Nov. 14, 1994.

At Niagara, Woodhouse was hired about 4 1/2 years ago as the health and safety manager.

After eight weeks, he was asked to become the acting director of physical resources. But after three months, he reverted back to health and safety manager "for a bit," and then went to the St. Catharines campus as manager. He returned to director of physical resources, then went back to the St. Catharines campus, and was eventually transferred back to the physical resources department in serveral different capacities, and "now I'm here."

"It's challenging, and that's my nature," Woodhouse said, regarding being jumped from one position to another. "The most difficult part is boxing everything up and setting up the new office."

The different positions have only given Woodhouse more of what he enjoys. He said he "craves for learning" and has taken a lot of different improvement seminars over the years,



Mal Woodhouse, acting director of physical resources, is working at his desk.

Photo by Michael Greves

"always trying . . . to learn and broaden my understanding of things."

"I enjoy getting into things that I don't know a lot about," he said. "It's a challenge for me, I look at it that way."

Woodhouse represented Thorold at Regional Council for six years, served on Thorold City Council for seven years, on the Police Commission for three years, in the last year serving as chair of the Niagara Region Police Commission.

Never short on ideas, and someone who enjoys a challenge, Woodhouse, a home gardener, intends to create butterfly fields on the Welland campus. The fields, designed to attract birds, insects and, of course, butterflies, would replace some of their natural habitat which has been destroyed. It would also be beneficial for the day care, he said.

"There's a short supply of natural vegetation for native species and we've got 100 acres here that, for the most part, is under Kentucky bluegrass.

"We're looking at talking to our horticulture program . . . to look at some design to involve the students down there," he said.

"Hobby wise . . . politics and community involvement. I'm a real community junkie," Woodhouse said.

"I love the community I live in and want to make a contribution."

The Human Alternative

'We help them find what they want to do' - Brown

By JOHN SAKARS
Staff Writer

Knowing they want to work with people, but unsure of the specific field leads students to the Human Relations program, said Beverly Brown.

"We help them find what they want to do—it's very rewarding," she said of the program she's been co-ordinating for the past 2 1/2 years.

She became the co-ordinator because she "thought it was time for a change and another challenge," after having been an instructor for the Educational Resources and Special Needs (ERSN) program at Niagara College for 17 1/2 years.

She was approached for the position when previous co-ordinator, Tom Busnarda, went on sabbatical. She agreed to take it for two years, but is still with it.

"I enjoy it very much," she said, adding it's the challenge she'd hoped it would be.

Brown, 53, of Grimsby, had taught secondary school for five years before spotting an advertisement for a teaching position at Niagara College.

She has a master's degree in education from Brock University in St. Catharines, a bachelor's degree in education from the University of Toronto, and a bachelor's degree in sociology from the University of Western Ontario in London, Ont.

She said there are about 185 students in the two-year program, who are "here to find out more about themselves and what they're good at."

Students use the program as a starting point, and through field placement they get a chance to explore different fields to find out what interests them, Brown said.

"We try to give them as many generic skills as we can. In most cases they go on to take post-grad courses in whatever field they want to."

She said she and the two full-time teachers are "working constantly at making sure we offer courses the students need" - courses that teach career planning skills, computers, how to work as a team, and how to better their relations with other people.

Brown has been married for 31 years, and has two children. Her son is a paramedic in Metro Toronto, and her daughter is earning a master's degree in social work.

She said she loves gardening, decorating and reading mystery novels, as well as spending "a lot of time with my grandchildren. I love them dearly."

Staff 'very resourceful'

BY ELIZABETH MONSERE
Staff Writer

The Learning Resource Centre (LRC) is a place for quiet studying, but also to find resources for essays students are assigned throughout the semester.

The library staff is there to help students throughout the day and evening. They are dedicated and "very resourceful," say students.

"I use the library everyday. For me the library is a main source of studying," says John Herrington, 27, a fourth-year Electronical Engineering Technology program student.

Paul Klager, 23, also a fourth-year Electronical Engineering Technology program student, says he uses the library every other day.

The automated system provides computer access information on books available in the Welland campus library.

"I use the library for quiet studying time, but I also research projects and essays using electronic books that they offer as a resource," he says.

Klager says using the automated system is much easier if you know exactly what you want.

"I use the library two or three hours a week," says Denise Hawken, 20, a first-year General Arts and Science program student.

She says she likes the library much better now that it has the automated system, making researching easier.

"The staff is very friendly, and I find the staff very helpful."

Joe Dailey, 20, a first-year Computer Electrical Electronics Technology program student, says he uses the library everyday to work on assignments and study.

"I use the facilities for my research and work I have to use different references for."

Dailey says the library has no noise, and there is nothing to distract you from your studies. The library provides a comfortable environment for studying, he adds.

Program invents textbooks

By KAREN FREEMAN
Staff Writer

What to do when there is no manual? Write one!

Sylvia Szabo, co-ordinator of the Health Records program said, there are no Canadian textbooks to teach the program. All the textbooks come from the U.S.

"Stuff from anywhere in Canada," says Szabo, was pulled together for the manual. Statistics from the Canadian Institute for Health Information, and different parts of information from textbooks which students buy, were put into the manual.

Profit making was not the main reason for the manuals, but rather to give the students Canadian information. "They can just add to the notes already there, when in class," said Szabo. All the material from the textbooks is outlined in the manuals. "This cuts off three books and puts the manuals to work."

She said, with these manuals "we will be able to update the information" each time it's needed.

"Sandy Bain, divisional secretary of the Allied Health Studies program, did all the work and did it on her own time," said Szabo.

"And I did them all in one year. Finishing two weeks before the beginning of winter term."

Sex on the agenda

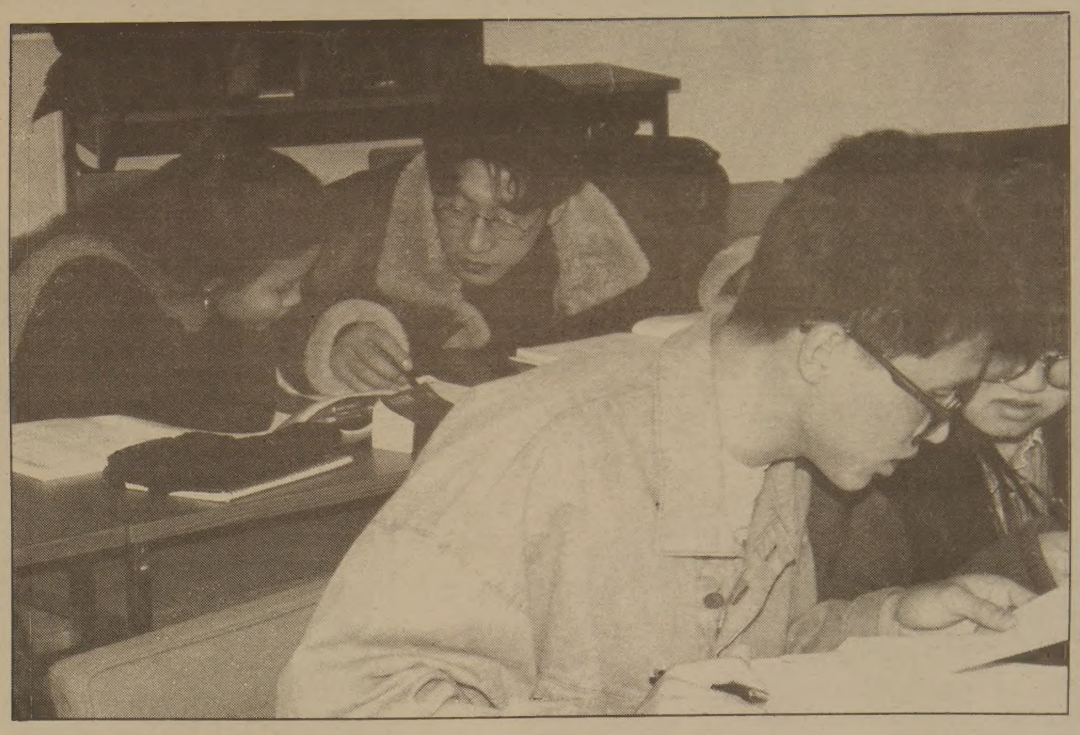
Sexual Awareness Week begins Feb. 27 and runs until March 3.

Niagara College and the Student Administrative Council (SAC) will be providing students with the opportunity to address sexual issues such as violence, disease and relationships, as they relate to sex. These topics will be dealt with at information booths SAC plans at the Welland campus.

The Public Health Department, Community Against Rape and Sexual Assault (CARSA) and the college plan to set up booths with a resource guide and directory available.

Anyone interested in volunteering can call Bren Biggs at the SAC office ext. 7659.

FEATURE PAGE



English as a Second Language students So Mi Lee, Tina Liu, Tang Chalermwong, Jun Kwang Kim, Hak Kyu Kim and Yuki Taoka look over their writing assignments in one of their English classes.

Photo by Lori Duck

Speaking in tongues

By LORI DUCK
Staff Writer

If you're nervous giving a presentation, imagine what it would be like when you must speak in an unfamiliar language.

In the oral communications class of the Niagara College English as a Second Language (ESL) program, each student picks a newspaper article, and explains its contents.

Any words not understood must be looked up in a dictionary, and explained to the rest of the class. Each student does the presentation twice.

Evaluation is by teacher Susan Vandenboom, who says, "they don't prepare enough the first time. They don't know how much they need to do."

For the second presentation, the students are videotaped. The student takes the tape home for a self evaluation.

Grading criteria include such things as transparency (ease of understanding), introduction, explanation of vocabulary, oral summary of article, answers to student questions, discussion questions and preparation. The students do the presentations to practice speaking and writing English.

Topics covered have included television violence, haunted houses and behavior in emergency rooms.

After the presentation, the other students discuss how the presenter did and what he or she could improve. The students divide into groups and discuss questions prepared by the presenter.

Yuko Sekine, of Japan, who did her presentation on schoolyard bullies, said, "I like the presentations better when someone else is doing them."

Most of the students agree to being "very nervous" when they give their presentations.

From Taiwan to Welland

Slower, 'Canadian' pace enjoyed by ESL student

By WILLIAM BECK
Staff Writer

Life can take some really weird twists sometimes.

One day you're in the middle of a bustling highly industrialized city, and the next you are in Welland, among people you have never seen before in your life.

This is especially true of one of Niagara College's newest foreign students enrolled in the English as a Second Language (ESL) program.

Sherry Ko, 23, of Taipei, Taiwan arrived in Welland only a month ago. As a manager of a clothing store in downtown Tapei for nearly three years, Ko said she got fed up with the hectic lifestyle of living in downtown Taipei and decided to further her education in Canada. She had the choice of either Canada or the U.S., but opted for Canada as there is "too much crime in the United States.

"Three months ago I didn't have a clue that I'd be here. But I feel very comfortable everyday, I can cool down and relax now."

Ko was taught English by her father an English teacher at a Tapei university.

"If you have an interest in the language you are learning, it is easier to pick up."

After completing her courses in the ESL program, Ko plans to attend the Hospitality and Tourism Centre at the Niagara College campus in Niagara Falls.

As to where she would like to work, Canada or Taiwan, Ko is unable to say at this point in her life.

"If I can't find a job, I guess I will go home, it's hard to say right now."

While in Welland, Ko is staying with a homestay family whom she finds "very warm and kind."

Ko has found the educational structure to be quite different from her homeland.

"Japan, Taiwan and Korea are all the same. They are all very demanding. They are very strict and there is lots of homework. I love my teachers here, they are very good, very humorous," she said.

The one aspect of North American living that has taken Ko a while to get used to is the cold weather and snow that she has never seen before, she said.

Ko says her hobbies are swimming, camping and talking.

"I am not a quiet girl," she said.

The slower pace of life and attitude is what Ko likes the most about Canada, she said.

"There is a different style here, it's very nice. In Taiwan money is very important."

'Just one thing at a time...'

Martha O'Brien proud of her identity

By WILLY NOILES
Staff Writer

Sexuality is not about who a person is sleeping with, but rather how they connect emotionally. This is the message one lesbian is trying to get across.

"The sex is a small part of the very big picture," says Martha O'Brien.

Stressing she speaks only for herself, O'Brien, a 23-year-old General Arts student at Niagara College, is not ashamed of her sexuality.

"I'm proud of it...It's who I am, it's my identity."

For O'Brien, coming out wasn't "some horrendous struggle." She was "lucky," she says, because when she came out at 19, she was living in London, Ont., and had gay friends around for support.

Although she says she had been attracted to girls at an early age, she never acted on those feelings. Her high school years were average, she says. She dated boys and hung around with friends.

When she met a girl in London, "it became really clear after that."

Her large family, which consists of two brothers, five sisters and "staunch Catholic" parents, know about her sexuality, she says. She gets along with her family, she says, but nobody talks about her sexuality.

But O'Brien will talk about it. "I'm not going to edit it out for anyone," she says.

Neither will she hide her feelings in public. Involved in a long-term relationship, O'Brien says, "I'll kiss her, I'll hold her hands."

Though not a member of Niagara's Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Club, she says it's "really important" there is a club.

"There's probably a lot of people out there suffering terribly," she says.

She hasn't faced a lot of discrimination, she says, but knows it exists. While men are more apt to be physically harassed, she says, "women deal more with verbal harassment."

Although she is concerned with gay rights issues, she says it's important to stand up for all human rights.

Same-sex benefits have "been a long-time coming," she says.

"Gay people have been here all along. It's ridiculous we're not getting (the same rights as heterosexuals) already."

O'Brien says she has found the person she wants to "grow old together" with and would like to see gay marriages.

"It just seems really unfair we can't consummate (our love) legally."

While some people will argue marriage is for procreation, O'Brien says "there's plenty of gay couples raising children."

She wants to have children herself one day, but says a male role model is needed.

"It's important...to have a male point of view."

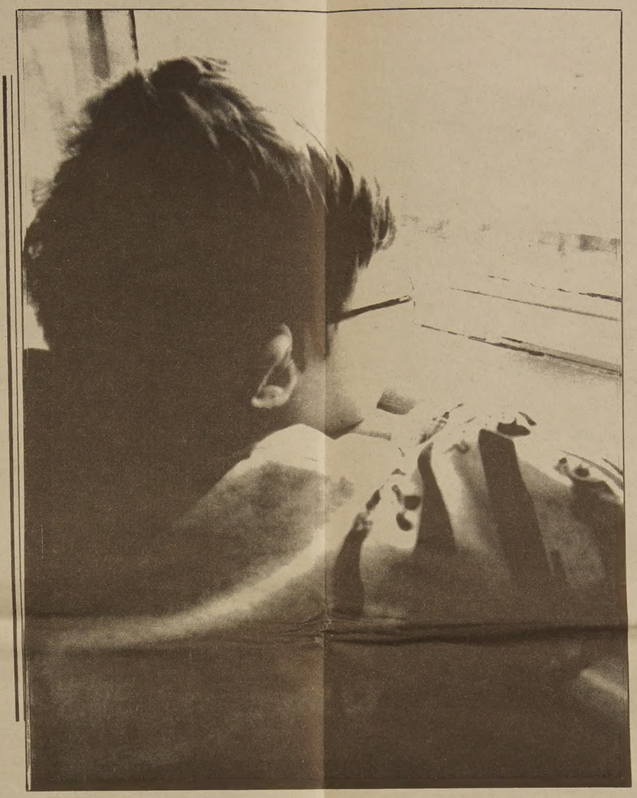
While researchers and others will continue the debate over whether homosexuality is something one is born with or the environment one is brought up in, O'Brien says it doesn't matter.

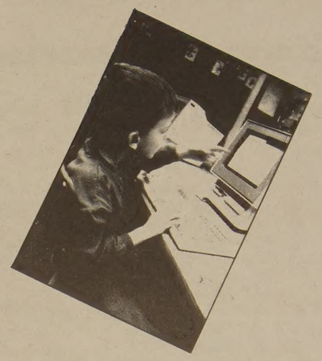
"Whichever, it's who you are."

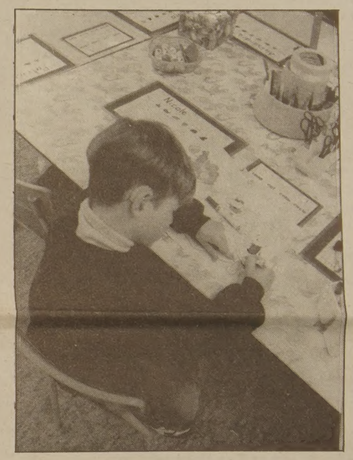
Times are changing, she says, but the fight for equal rights will continue.

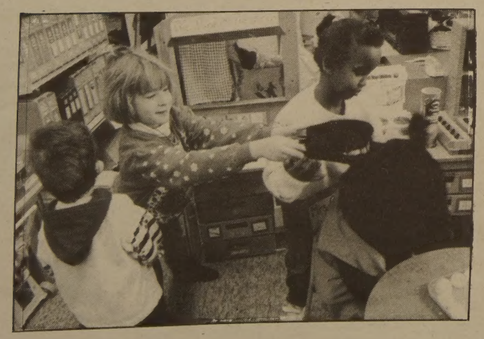
"Just one thing at a time—that's the way you've got to do it. Just one step at a time."

In their "Silent" world









By GORDANA PIRKER
Staff Writer

We equip them with hearing aids and other electronic devices - all to help them to communicate with us.

We place their hands near our face so they can feel the vibration - all to help them understand sound.

Do they understand? Can we fix it? Or do we just learn to communicate - their way.

Sign language is the language most deaf children learn in order to communicate. But, unfortunately, it is only known to them, their parents, teachers and other deaf children or adults.

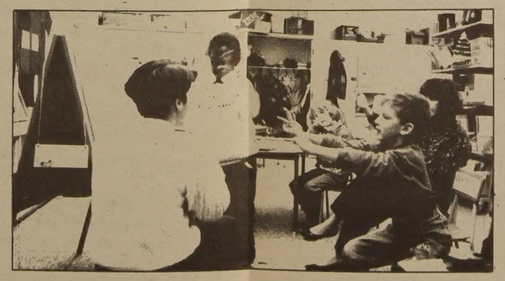
Deafness is not a disease and it is not contagious - but learning sign could become contagious.

Using your hands and every facial expression a story could be told, a feeling can be shared and a lesson may be taught.

It is a unique and special language anyone can learn.

For my daughters, it is almost like a secret language we share. And, at times, it could be fun when strangers look at us trying to figure out what we are doing. But at times, it can be frustrating when some don't understand and whisper behind us.

Deaf children are children. Playful, curious, loving and at times loud. How they express themselves or how they learn should be applauded and encouraged. Being deaf or not!



CHECK YOUR CHILD'S HEARING

Check your child's hearing regularly, especially if he or she has recently been sick. Call your doctor if the answer to any of these questions below is "no."

* At five to six weeks, if you speak to your baby when you are outside the range of vision, does your baby react and turn his or her head toward you?

*At six to 12 months, does your baby respond to the sound of paper being crumpled and at his or her name? Does your baby make verbal sounds?

*At 18 months, can your child speak his or her first words?

*At two years, can your child hear you when you call from another room?

*At three years, does your child speak clearly, except for "s" and "th"?

Gordana Pirker

Special thanks to the Briardale students and staff

ENTERTAINMENT

Carl Strong livens up After Hours

By ALLAN SHIELDS
Staff Writer

It was standing room only as comedian Carl Strong performed at Niagara College's Student Centre (After Hours) on Feb. 9.

Strong livened up the pub with a routine about friends, sex, and even gas problems.

After a one-hour performance, the well-known American comedian was off again to complete his busy Canadian tour of 140 schools.

Strong tours Canada twice annually, exhibiting an interest in Canadian audiences.

The gifted actor, 30, lives in Milwaukee, Wis., and has been in the show business for 18 years.

He was a defensive linebacker in football before quitting college to begin his career in comedy.

Strong said he was in his school cafeteria eating lunch and without a second thought went on stage to express his thoughts on the food being served (we won't mention the college).

Little did he know his talent was revealed through his hilarious comments about the food he was eating.

"I wasn't acting though. The food was crap and I just had to give my opinion."

The next day, he received a telephone call from an agency, which took particular interest in his stage performance. The agency said he had potential, so they started him as an opening act in bars.

There was no turning back.

"My first show I remember receiving $8 and a keg of beer. It was great, I was set. Who would say no to a keg of beer?"

Within a brief period, Strong was travelling and performing throughout North America.

His television appearances included *Evening at the Improv, A&E, CBS Morning Show with Mariette Hartley, ABC's George Schlatter's Comedy Club Hour and NBC's Showtime at the Apollo.*

He was also the opening act for singer Gladys Knight, and has done an HBO special, which included the infamous Martin Lawrence.

Strong said his most memorable appearance has to be when - at the last minute - he opened up for Knight at the Desert Inn in Las Vegas.

He said there were two stages - he headlined one - Knight the other. He said he was ready to go on stage shortly after his opening act finished, when there was confusion backstage.

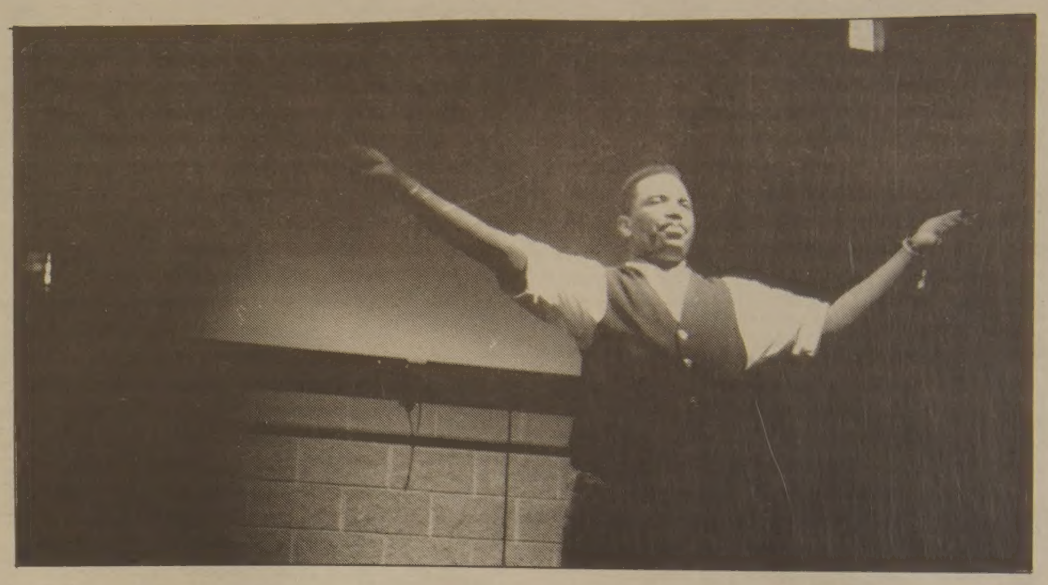
Knight's opening act was to be picked up by limo, which he missed. Strong said later it was understood the opening act was on his way in a cab. In the meantime, Knight's manager suggested Strong be the opening act open for Knight. Fortunately, The Desert Inn owner preferred that Strong open for Knight and so he cancelled his original show.

Thrilled to death, Strong said he had no complaints.

Strong begins touring with Knight in Los Angeles on March 16 to late April, shortly after his Canadian tour.

"I enjoy Canada. I come here to get away and see a different audience to regroup when I am struggling. Right now things are good though."

Inspired by such actors as Richard Pryor, Bill Cosby, Robin Williams, and George Carlin, Strong said he plans to continue his career in comedy, performing in front of American and Canadian audiences.



Carl Strong, 30, of Milwaukee, Wis., preforming at After Hours Feb. 9.

Photo by Allan Shields

Shaw Festival reunites 1985 team for 1995 plays

The Shaw Festival in Niagara-on-the-Lake has assembled a distinguished creative team for 1995, which showcases some of North America's top directors and designers.

The Shaw will reunite the original 1985 artistic team of Christopher Newton, Duncan McIntosh, and Cameron Porteous for this year's pageant of Noel Coward's Cavalcade.

Support staff and access centers will be announced

By JASON GRAHAM
Staff Writer

Later this month, the College des Grands Lacs (Great Lakes College) will determine the number of support staff positions it will require for the the opening in September 1995.

On Feb. 28, the college will be announcing the exact geographic locations for each of the access centres, located in Welland, Windsor, Penetanguishine, Hamilton and Toronto.

"Everything is going according to schedule," said Anne Audet-Giroux, manager of French language services at Niagara College and a member of the Board of Governors at College des Grands Lacs.

Carpenter releases 5th album

courageous follow up to Come On, Come On

By WILLY NOILES
Staff Writer

Mary Chapin Carpenter's fifth album is a courageous follow up to *Come On, Come On.*

While most artists are willing to follow formula after a double-platinum album, Carpenter risks it by going back to the casual folksiness of her first two releases. *Stones in the Road* should stack up as her best to date.

With a songwriting style and lyric phrasing that is reminiscent of an early Joni Mitchell, Carpenter is at her best when she's chronicling society or affairs of the heart.

Outside Looking In is an apt title for her stories. She gives the listener the sense of someone who is able to detach herself from the situation: "I heard the sound a heart must make when a memory's caving in/Oh baby what a hungry place, outside looking in."

The title song is an indictment of our society's fixation on getting to the top regardless of the price. "We pencil in, we cancel out, we crave the corner suite/We kiss your ass, we make you hold, we doctor the receipt."

The reason for Carpenter's success can be traced to songs like *A Keeper For Every Flame* where she portrays three different breakups. A woman who still feels a glow whenever she hears an old boyfriend's name. A man who shuts himself off from love: "It's just an empty space where something used to be/Now he guards the gate but he's lost the key." And her own experience: "I thought my heart had broken but it was just a little bruised/I thought love had spoken, I guess I was just confused."

Carpenter, who co-produced with longtime partner John Jennings, is helped out on this album with appearances by fellow contemporaries Shawn Colvin, Trisha Yearwood and the beefy drumming of John Mellancamp percussionist Kenny Aronoff.

Although the album is filled with heartbreak the hit

Shut Up and Kiss Me should be enough to make you smile and dance.

The bravest cut is John Doe No. 24 in which Carpenter paints the story of a deaf and blind boy found wandering the streets of New Orleans before eventually committing suicide.

Although the album is filled with heartbreak, the hit *Shut Up and Kiss Me* should be enough to make you smile and dance.

Tragically Hip rocks Copps

By JASON GRAHAM
Staff Writer

Performing before a sold-out crowd, The Tragically Hip proved their popularity again to an excited audience.

Between 7 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Feb. 9, 20,000 fans began filling Copps Coliseum in Hamilton, Ont. Before the show began Joe K. Hill from 97.7Hits FM in St. Catharines, and Scott Thompson from Y95 in Hamilton, distributed tickets for each audience member who brought in a non-perishable food item. At 7:30 p.m., the two DJs drew two tickets for front row centre seats.

The first opening band, Change of Heart, gave an exciting three-song set to get the crowd in a jumping mood. Next was The Odds, a bluesy-rock band, who gave a seven-song set keying the night up perfectly for the headline act.

20,000 fans fill Copps

At 9 p.m., The Tragically Hip burst onto the stage and into their first number, *Grace Too* off their recent album *Day For Night*. The crowd was on its feet, screaming at every gyration or facial expression lead singer Gord Downey made.

Fifty Mission Cap, off the album *Fully Completely*, was the next highlight of the Hip's 1 1/2 hour set. Lead guitarist Bobby Brown's solos were also a crowd favorite. Once the spotlight lit up his twangy licks the crowd went crazy.

The set mellowed down with the song *Nautical Disaster*, also from the album *Day For Night* and then the Hip tore the roof off with the bumped up rendition of *Little Bones*, always a crowd favorite.

After an extended absence the Hip came back on stage for a three-song encore led by *Courage*.

Blues man cometh

By EVELYN BAUER
Staff Writer

Got the Blues? Go by way of Texas, and Chris Duarte Group may be a cure for you. His name can be added to the list including B. B. King, Winter Brothers and Stevie Ray Vaughan.

He has a sound that is pure, burning emotion. You can hear it immediately in the raw clanging notes of *My Way Down*. It's a lurching, clanging, blues rock jag that opens Duarte's debut album **Texas Sugar/Strat Magik.**

Duarte's exposure to the Blues goes as far as AC/DC's **Highway To Hell**. Punk invaded his style and is a pivotal element that would distinguish his approach to blues.

Dennis Herring is the producer, known for his productions of innovative and eclectic leaning bands like: Camper Van Beethoven, Throwing Muses and Timbuk 3.

Letter To My Girlfriend is like driving down the road in a late 60's muscle car with the wind blowing in your hair.

Duarte is a blues man, but he will need more life experiences to be better. Given this is his first album, he has lots of potential for growth.

If you like Texan blues, this is a good album and it has the energy to burn.

hHead disappoints crowd

By BRYAN BERNAT
Staff Writer

Metallica made it strictly on their live acts in the bay area around San Francisco, Calif. after releasing a beat up demo tape called *No life 'till leather.*

Music is only half of what can either make or break a band. Even a successful bid for major radio play, record contracts and huge amounts of promotion doesn't exempt a band from putting on a **really** bad show.

hHead, CFNY's 1993 Discovery to Disc $100,000 winning band, proved this to the Hideaway in St. Catharines last Friday.

The power trio was every bit as sophomoric as the "gym-baggers" sitting on the floor talking about Saturday morning cartoons. Gym-baggers is the term given to young naive teens who like to bring their Mighty Morphin' Power Rangers knapsacks to concerts with them. There were about 20 knapsacks under a table by the entrance and about 100 kids sitting on the floor, completely oblivious to the show going on around them.

Everyone in the crowd seemed to be asking themselves the same questions- should we dance? Should we try to look cool? Should we get another glass of water? Alcoholic beverages weren't allowed bandside "to protect the underage crowd" or about 99 per cent of the people.

hHead is capable of putting on a better show, or drawing a better crowd, after all these guys won $100,000 (that's one tenth of a cool million, that's a one with **five big zeros** behind it, that's mucho cake to us little people).

Unfortunately, I paid $10 to see a bunch of children, on and off the stage, cavort in an embarrassing manner. Ten bucks could've bought a six-pack and a movie. I should've stayed at home.

SPORTS

Knights inch closer to playoff berth

HOCKEY

By FRANK SERRA
Staff Writer

The Knights are in! It's unofficial, but a victory against Sir Sandford Fleming last Saturday at the Welland Arena all but secures Niagara the last playoff spot.

Chris DiGiacomo led the Knights to a 7-3 victory with a four-point night including the hat trick. DiGiacomo owned the second period netting three straight goals for his team. He added an assist in the third period to cap an impressive effort.

"We got our chances tonight and were able to put them in. It felt good to be back in the thick of things," DiGiacomo said.

His teammates weren't too far behind in scoring on this night. Mike Tasker had a goal and two assists; Dave Crane had two goals and Darren Ross registered a goal and a helper.

Goaltender Dave Boulton stopped 28 shots in the 7-3 victory.

"I think it was the best defensive game we've played all year. It was a good team effort," Boulton said.

Head Coach Jim Beattie was pleased with his team's effort on this night.

"Chris (DiGiacomo) has been patient, waited his time and managed to step in and net some pretty good goals. Davey (Boulton) continues to play well between the pipes. All in all it was a good team effort," Beattie said.

Niagara College currently sits in sixth place, the last playoff spot, with two games remaining. As of press time, Niagara will have played a game in Toronto last night against Seneca College.

The final two games will be played this week. Tomorrow night Conestoga rolls into town and on Friday, Feb. 24, the Knights travel to Peterborough to take on Sir Sandford Fleming College. SSFC has a split squad, one team from Peterborough and the other from Lindsay. Both are probably going to miss the playoffs.

The playoffs (OCAA Championships) take place on March 3 and 4 in Lindsay, Ont., at Sir Sandford Fleming College.

Goaltender Dave Boulton and defenceman Jason Brazeau focus on the puck as Lyndon Johnson #25, puts the check on an opposing player.

Photo by Frank Serra

Niagara pair advances to championships

CINDY EMERY

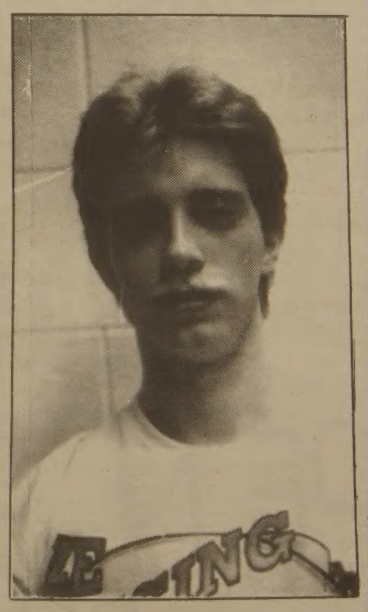
By MICHAEL MUCAKI
Staff Writer

Niagara College's mixed badminton team of Sean Ellis and Cindy Emery won all their matches at the Ontario College Athletic Association (OCAA) Regionals held this past weekend to advance to the championships.

"It wasn't a great performance but they still played good enough to win," said head coach Dave Carpenter.

"Ellis used techniques over power in the tournament due to an injury a couple of weeks ago."

Niagara's mixed team will travel to Kingston to participate at the OCAA championships on Feb. 17-18.



SEAN ELLIS

Cambrian forfeits points to Niagara

By HEATH ANDERSON
Staff Writer

Smashing, spiking and blocking Niagara College's men's volleyball team is in a tie for first place and due to player disqualifications the men's hockey team was awarded a win despite a 9 to 1 drubbing by Cambrian.

Niagara's Blair Cudmore led the men's volleyball team to a first-place tie with Humber College from Etobicoke. Both teams have 22 points.

Cudmore retains second place in the scoring race with an average of five points a game. Niagara's Greg Heyder is ranked eighth with 3.8 points a game.

Niagara's women's volleyball team is still struggling. The women Knights lost against Centennial College from Scarborough and Mohawk College from Hamilton. The team is in eighth place.

Niagara's men's hockey team was awarded a win over Cambrian College from Sudbury because Cambrian had some ineligible players when they played Niagara and Seneca College.

Because of this, the Knights remain in sixth place with 10 points and with two more games to play. Niagara's Dave Crane still leads the team with 27 points, 11th in the scoring race.

On the hardwood, the women's basketball team has held onto fourth place in their division with a strong performance against Redeemer College in Ancaster. They held their position despite losing to second-ranked Fanshawe College from London. Niagara's Diana Dipietro leads the team with 12.2 points a game.

Niagara's men's basketball team retains fifth place after a tough week, losing two and winning one. The team bounced back after losses to Fanshawe College and St. Clair College of Windsor to defeat Lambton College of Sarnia.

Mike Hurley continues to lead Niagara with an average of 18.6 points a game and is third in league in the scoring race.

Men's volleyball lose to Redeemer in tournament

By SHELLEY HOLDEN
Staff Writer

The men's volleyball team fell to some disappointing losses, in a host tournament at the Welland gymnasium last weekend.

The Knights won three games and lost seven. "It was a disappointing performance by every player on the team," said Ray Sarkis, coach of the men's volleyball team. "They did not play well as a team."

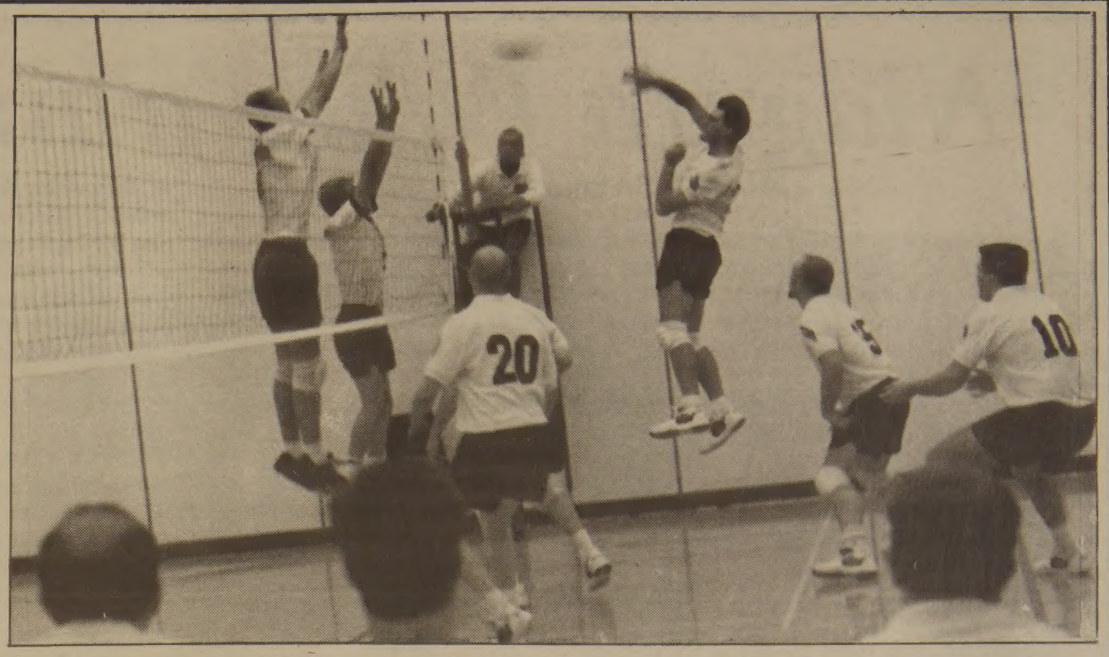
Sarkis said they were outplayed by the weaker teams and did not play up to their potential. "I was really expecting us to play Humber in the finals, but we didn't play as well as we should have," said Sarkis.

Sarkis said Redeemer was the surprise of the tournament, who went on to play Humber in the finals. Humber went on to beat Redeemer 15-8, 17-16 and 15-5.

Richard VanHeizen of Redeemer was the MVP of the Tournament. Greg Heyder of the Knights was selected to the tournament all-star team.

"All around it was a very good tournament and the teams were well represented," said Sarkis.

The Knights host their quarter-final match against Seneca this Saturday at 2 p.m. Come out and show some support for the team.



Greg Heyder jumps for a kill against a couple of defenders from Redeemer College during a tournament held at Niagara last weekend. Heyder was named to the tournament's all-star team.
Photo by Shelley Holden

Women's volleyball defeat George Brown College in three straight sets

Laurie Shipp (#7) goes up for a spike against defenders from George Brown College of Toronto as Laura Chatterton looks on. Niagara won the match in three straight sets on Feb. 10.
Photo by Shelley Holden

Knights' curling make fourth place

BY ELIZABETH MONSERE
Staff Writer

For the Niagara Knights curling team, it was an upset with a fourth place final in the curling regionals last Friday.

Niagara College hosted the Ontario College Athletic Association (OCAA) curling championship last Thursday and Friday at the Welland Soccer Club.

The teams in the regionals in the men's division were Niagara, Seneca College of North York, Mohawk College of Hamilton, Georgian College of Barrie and Ridgetown College.

On Thursday, Niagara played Georgian, Ridgetown and Mohawk. After Thursday's final, Niagara held a 1-2 record and had to beat Seneca College on Friday to qualify for the provincials in Ottawa on Feb. 24.

Seneca and Georgian are advancing to the OCAA championship.

Bryan Nagy is the coach for the Niagara Knights curling team, Penny Rominger helped. The men's team consists of four players, including Jason Sleknaschuk, 20, a first-year Electrical Engineering program student, who has been curling for the past nine years.

Jeff Reid, 22, a second-year Electrical Technician program student, has been curling for Niagara for the past three years. Allan Charuk, 45, is a second-year Business Accounting program student.

Terry Fleuire, a first-year Recreation Leadership program student, has been curling for 12 years.

The Niagara mixed curling team will be advancing to the OCAA championships in Ottawa. The Seneca and Mohawk women's teams will also be going to Ottawa.

Women's indoor soccer lose tournament

By MICHAEL MUCAKI
Staff Writer

The women's indoor soccer team played their first tournament in the Sweetheart tournament in Welland and reached the quarter-finals on Feb. 11.

Niagara lost to the St. Catharines Jets 5-0 to end a successful tournament.

The Knights reached the quarter-finals when they went 1-1-1 in round-robin play.

"It was a warmup for the upcoming regionals in March," said head coach Steve Celestini.

"I was very pleased by the players' effort."

Rebecca Leblanc had three goals in the tournament to lead the Knights attack, and Vanessa Shepperd had one goal.

"Cathy Mackay (goalie) held us in all the games with big saves at crucial times," said Celestini.

Rexdale defeated the Jets in the final to win the tournament.

The Regionals will be on March 10 in Kitchener, Ont.

Men's basketball lose to Mohawk

By MICHAEL MUCAKI
Staff Writer

It was a loss that really hurts.

And although making the playoffs is possible, it will be an uphill climb for Niagara's men's basketball team after losing to winless Mohawk College from Hamilton on Feb. 11.

It took overtime, but Mohawk won 78-77 with a last second shot.

Niagara's Mike Hurley missed two free-throw shots that could have put the Knights up three points with less than 10 seconds to play.

"It was a tough loss for us," said Niagara's head coach Randy Conlon. "We now have to win our last three games to make the playoffs and that won't be easy."

Niagara College
KNIGHTS

Hurley finished the game with 21 points to lead the Knights, while Derek Flindall had 16 points.

Niagara (3-6) plays at home against Lambton College from Sarnia at 7:30 p.m. tonight.

Niagara Police train at campus

By GORDANA PIRKER
Staff Writer

If you should ever wander in the Mackenzie building, perhaps near the Law and Security Administration program and happen to see a group of people being pinned down, or batons and knives whirling around, don't call 911...the cops are already there.

Niagara College recently opened its doors to the Niagara Regional Police for a new combined police/college course in force training.

Const. Steve Scriven and Const. Mike McAllister are the chief instructors for the "Use of Force Training" at the college, and are training officers in defense tactics. When the mandated provincial training was set by the government, Const. Scriven said each officer was required to complete eight hours of training a year.

"This is just a refresher course for the officers in which they upgrade their skills each year. The province gives us the guidelines and we make up the lesson plan," said Const. Scriven.

The training is half a day and about 14 to 16 officers attend each class. Scriven said that training officer safety is the biggest part of the training. And the feedback from officers has been positive, he added.

Despite what most of us see on television or in action-packed movies, officers do not pull out their guns or swing with the batons to subdue suspects. Scriven said officers are trained to use verbal skills to defuse the situation before any physical means are used.

He said officers do not want to be overly aggressive and use little force when making the arrest.

"We rarely pull firearms," he said, adding 95 per cent of the officers deal on a verbal level.

The force training will end on March 6. However, at the end of March officers will return to the college for new firearm training. Part of the six-hour training will include in-class time at the college and at the Niagara Regional Police firing range. Last year, the government approved the change to outdated firearms and then equipped officers with 9mm semi-automatics.

College offers Environmental Enterprise program

By DAWN SWAYZE
Staff Writer

Niagara College is making it easier to help manage necessary environmental enterprises within the Niagara Region.

"Self-employment is one of the fastest growing sectors in the economy and the environmental field offers great opportunity for people who want to create their own career, within that field," said Barb Okanik, manager of Niagara College's School of Business and Entrepreneurship.

In collaboration with Human Resources Development Canada, the college is responding to the environmental and economic priorities of government. Together, they have developed an opportunity to stimulate the growth of environmentally-oriented small and medium-sized businesses.

By design, it will provide individuals with multi-disciplinary knowledge, to successfully launch environmental change which is rapidly expanding in the market-place.

The program will be available to 16 students, beginning Feb. 20 and will run until June 30. Participants will complete 540 hours of training based on a 30-hour week at the college's St. Catharines campus.

"One of the strengths of this program is the excellent pool of available instructors both in the environmental field and business development areas," said Jon Ogryzlo, manager of The Centre for Environmental Training at the college, in a press release.

Participants in this program will be identified using a systematic selection process and each student will be required to satisfy criteria in order to ensure business success. For further information regarding the Environmental Enterprise program, please call Mike Jackson at (905) 684-4315, ext. 2417 or Barb Okanik at ext. 2450.

Student views heading to Regents

By WILLY NOILES
Staff Writer

The Council of Regents is the place for Niagara College's Student Administrative Council (SAC) to take any concerns they have on a student-run education evaluation, Ontario's Minister of Education says.

In a telephone interview Feb. 14, Dave Cooke, Windsor-Riverside MPP, said SAC should discuss the issues with College President John Saso and have approval from the college's Board of Governors before approaching him.

Calling Saso "a really progressive (college) president," Cooke said the Council of Regents deals with some of these concerns.

The Council of Regents is the governing body that oversees the operation of the college system. Its members are government appointed.

Sports briefs...

Playoffs start Saturday at 2 p.m.

The Niagara Knights men's volleyball team will be host to Seneca College from North York in quarter-finals tomorrow beginning at 2 p.m. in the Welland campus gym.

Niagara ended the regular season with a strong 10-3 record and hope to continue their winning ways tomorrow.

The winner advances to Ontario Colleges Athletic Association championships in Belleville on Feb. 24 and 25.

Mixed curling team advances

The Niagara Knights men's curling team failed to advance to the Ontario College Athletic Association (OCAA) championships in Ottawa on Feb. 10 with a 1-3 record at the OCAA Regionals in Welland.

The Knights' mixed team automatically advanced to the championships because of only two entries in that event.

PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED AND CAN'T FIND A SUITABLE JOB??

Earn a good income working on the phone in your own home after brief on premises training.

Call Lisa Saturno at Niagara Publications for interview 834-5191 or 384-9792.

College provides access for women in maths, sciences

By SUE NOBLE

Women are given more opportunities to enter the world of math and science today than at any other time in history.

The college community is "very sensitive to the needs and issues of all students," said Carol Boettcher, Niagara College's vice-president, student life and human resources.

With the introduction of six new post-diploma programs bringing in about 150 new enrolments, Boettcher said the college supports women in their aim to acquire maths and sciences.

Boettcher said young women need to be encouraged, at an earlier age, to understand the technical, scientific and mathematical aspects of education.

CRNC
CAMPUS RADIO NIAGARA COLLEGE

CRNC TOP 40

1. BETTER MAN	PEARL JAM	21.LIGHTENING CRASHES	LIVE
2. WHEN I CAME AROUND	GREEN DAY	22.LOVE SPREADS	STONE ROSES
3. DON' TELL ME	VAN HALEN	23.BUDDY HOLLY	WEEZER
4.. BANG AND BLAME	R.E.M.	24.GOTTA GET AWAY	OFFSPRING
5. GREASY JUNGLE	TRAGICALLY HIP	25.ABOUT A GIRL	NIRVANA
6. SHE'S A RIVER	SIMPLE MINDS	26.COUDUROY	PEARL JAM
7. TRUTH UNTOLD	THE ODDS	27.AN INCH AN HOUR	TRAGICALLY HIP
8. BIG BROWN TURTLE	JUNKHOUSE	28.THE U.S OF ACHE	KIM MITCHELL
9. GEL	COLLECTIVE SOUL	29.FLY FROM HEAVEN	TOAD THE WET SPROCKET
10.UNGLUED	STONE TEMPLE PILOTS	30.LOST FOR WORDS	PINK FLOYD
11. THE MAN WHO SOLD THE WORLD	NIRVANA	31.ODE TO MY FAMILY	THE CRANBERRIES
12.THANK YOU	PLANT AND PAGE	32.WHIP SMART	LIZ PHAIR
13.WALK ON WATER	AEROSMITH	33.OCEAN PEARL	54-40
14.SPARKS WILL FLY	ROLLING STONES	34.TODAY I HATE EVERYONE	THE KILLJOYS
15.I'M NOT	SASS JORDAN	35.ALTERNATIVE GIRLFRIEND	BARENAKED LADIES
16.COVER ME	CANDLE BOX	36.ZOMBIE	THE CRANBERRIES
17.ALL UNCOVERED	THE WATCHMEN	37.SELF ESTEEM	OFFSPRING
18.I ALONE	LIVE	38.UGLY	SASS JORDAN
19.A MURDER OF ONE	COUNTING CROWS	39.PRETTY PENNY	STONE TEMPLE PILOTS
20.BALLAD OF PETER PUMPKINEATER	CRASH TEST DUMMIES	40.VIOLET	HOLE

They answered the call

The call for volunteers has been answered

By SUE NOBLE
Staff Writer

Three people have answered the call for volunteers to help organize orientations.

Linda Shuart, vice-president social of the Student Administrative Council; Eileen Doolittle of the registrar's office and Des McCurry, the associate registrar, volunteered to serve on the Orientation Committee.

Lou Dimattio, assistant director to student life and success, said they've chosen to give their "valuable time to ensure students who want to come to Niagara College, get a warm, friendly, enthusiastic, energetic, welcoming, first impression of the school."

Almost everyone goes through the confusion of first day and first week at college.

"Having someone show you where the elevators or washrooms are located, can be as beneficial as finding all of your classes on your first day at Niagara," Dimattio said.

Shuart said she feels student input is important on all the committees.

"It's very important for new students to feel welcome and orientation is a great way to make new friends," said Shuart.

Doolittle said she was a student here three years ago and didn't have anything like the orientation Niagara puts on for new students now.

She handles scheduling and co-ordination for the rooms students use during the orientation information seminars.

'It's very important for new students to feel welcome' Shuart

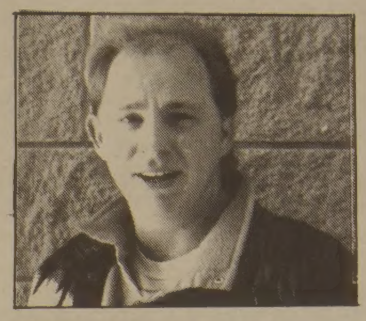
She was asked by Dimattio to join the committee and said "I think orientation is a fantastic method of introducing students to everything Niagara has to offer."

If you can spare a few hours from your hectic schedule on Feb. 27, to show new students around Niagara's Welland campus and you would like to share some college spirit, please contact Dimattio in S101 or ext. 7796.

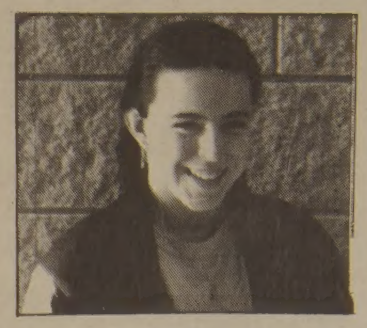
Niagara Speaks

If you could change something to improve Niagara College, what would it be?

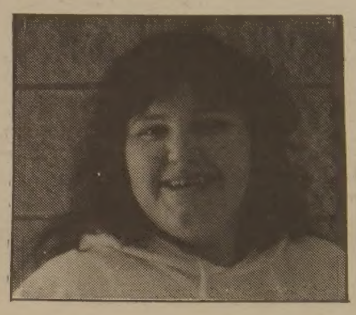
"I would try to eliminate some of the paperwork and administration so I could spend more time with faculty and students," says **LARRY TAYLOR**, director of Media and Design Division.



"I would make the system assessment form being presently implemented mandatory for people who are entering college. Students should be able to find their strengths, and if not mandatory at least free to students who are interested in filling one out," says **BERNIE KUREK**, a second-year Law and Security Administration program student.



"Keep all walkways in between buildings and all stairs outside (especially ones in front of the pub) cleared from snow and ice. It's much safer when cleared and salted, and buses don't run enough from Brock University," says **LAURIE STEPHENSON**, a first-year Business Adminstration program student.



"Teachers should not be allowed to change course outlines without permission from the whole class. There have been sections deleted from courses that I and others in my class had a genuine interest in learning about," says **KIM FRAGOMENI**, a second-year Law and Security Administration program student.

SAC & After Hours PRESENT...

BUFFALO SABRES
VS.
MONT. CANADIENS
Sunday Mar 5
Bus departs here @ 5:30pm
$30
Blues!!

SKI TRIP
Feb 22nd
Free Bus leaves @4pm, pay for your lift-ticket
More information in SAC office!!!

The BOTTOM LINE
YOUR GUIDE TO WHAT'S GOING ON AT NIAGARA COLLEGE

WEDNESDAYS ARE
COMEDY NIGHTS
AT NIAGARA COLLEGE STUDENT CENTRE
FEATURING...
TIM RYKERT
AND
GLENN OTTAWAY
STARTS MARCH 1, 8:00PM
NO COVER

Sexual Awareness Week Begins Feb 27th
Fill SAC survey in this week's issue!!!

SAC YOU FILL IT OUT WE FILL YOU IN!!!

Your Student Administrative Council needs more information to properly represent your concerns. Over the past two weeks, we have sent out two of a three-part survey series to gather this information.

This third part is designed to provide more detailed, comprehensive information about your concerns. Without this information, Council cannot adequately represent you.

We would like you to please take the time to fill out this survey. The information we gather will help us to design questions for us to ask to the people who are involved with or relate to your particular concerns.

As an incentive for you to fill out this form, the first 200 people to hand in surveys will receive a prize as a token of our appreciation.

Thank-you for your time.

One Concern I have is:

Another Concern I have is:

One of the things that works well is:

SAC...Listening & Responding to YOU!!